

The Bulletins are published weekly throughout the school year (thirty issues) to aid teachers and students in keeping abreast of geography behind current news events.

# GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS

of  
**The National Geographic Society**  
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

The National Geographic Society is a non-profit educational and scientific Society established for the increase of geographic knowledge and its popular diffusion.

VOLUME XXIX

November 13, 1950

NUMBER 7

1. Progressive Tasmania Out to Lure Tourists
2. West Europe Coal-Steel Pool under Discussion
3. New Tacoma Bridge Spans Arm of Puget Sound
4. Puppets, Delight of the Ages, Revived by TV
5. Korea Northlands Are Rugged and Remote



U.S. ARMY, OFFICIAL

#### FIFTH-GRADERS IN SEOUL LEARN ABOUT THE UNITED STATES BY DRAWING AMERICAN SCENES

Though the Korean city has a domed capitol building of its own, the boy at the left chooses the capitol at faraway Washington, D. C., as his model. The young artists in this experimental group get inspiration from American magazines. Schooling is highly regarded in Korea (Bulletin No. 5).

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## Progressive Tasmania Out to Lure Tourists

AS another summer draws near in Tasmania, the heart-shaped island under the "down under" continent of Australia is making its annual bid for a share of the world's travel purse. Tasmania has attractions to draw many distant visitors, the Australian prime minister announced after a recent visit. The island, about 150 miles south of the mainland's southeast corner, is the smallest state of the Australian Commonwealth.

The Tasmanian isle has long been known as a playground for Australian vacationists seeking change from continental heat, drought, and plains. Less familiar to the world at large are its scenic delights and recreational facilities.

### A Wilder England

In an area half the size of Florida, Tasmania offers rugged mountains for winter sports and summer hikes; flowering orchards, spectacular waterfalls, and cool, trout-stocked streams and lakes. It has still unexplored forests and mysterious limestone caves. Along some 900 miles of coast line, golden beaches and cliff-framed, deep blue-water bays provide swimming, fishing, and yachting.

Tasmania's moderate and moist climate brings frequent comparison with England, as do its hunt clubs, "village greens," and the Georgian architecture of its town and country estates. But this wilder far-Pacific island has curious inhabitants never seen in the northern motherland.

Many of Tasmania's birds and beasts are leftovers from a primeval age. On the island are found not only such famous and fabulous Australian mammals as the egg-laying platypus and echidna, or spiny anteater, but the unique Tasmanian tiger and the Tasmanian devil.

Both of these primitive creatures are marsupials—animals equipped with pouches for carrying the young. The conspicuously striped Tasmanian tiger is really a marsupial wolf. The Tasmanian devil is a ferocious, night-prowling, carnivorous beast, about the size of a badger, but resembling a bear except for the long, heavy tail.

### Early Penal Colony

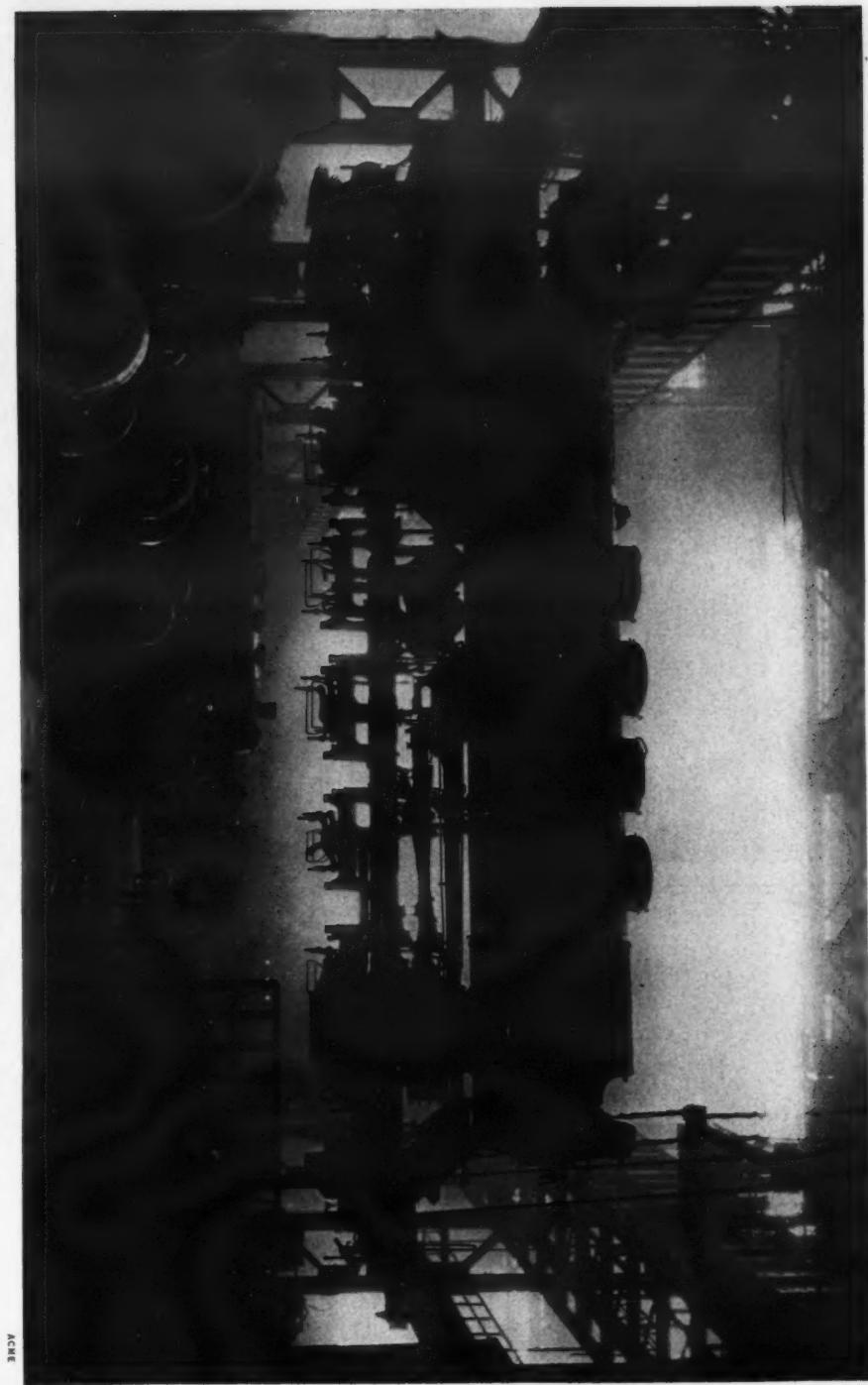
Tasmania's recorded history goes back to the early days of European exploration and rivalry in this part of the world. The island was discovered in 1642 by the Dutch navigator Abel Janszoon Tasman; but it was not settled until the English planted a colony there in 1803.

The first settlement was founded near what is now Tasmania's beautifully situated capital-port, Hobart. Many of the first colonists were convicts, for the island was to serve as a British penal outpost until the convict transport was halted in 1853. Soon afterward, local self-government was established, and the island's original name, Van Diemen's Land, was changed to Tasmania in honor of the Dutch discoverer.

Present-day Tasmania has a population rising beyond the quarter-of-

**ESSEN'S KRUPP WORKS DEPEND LARGEY ON FRENCH OR SWEDISH IRON ORE AND GERMAN COAL** (Bulletin No. 2)

The shop which once made cannon and armaments now repairs locomotives. Essen, along with the rest of the Ruhr, lies in the British zone of Germany.



## West Europe Coal-Steel Pool under Discussion

**R**EPORTS from six-nation talks indicate a ray of hope for western Europe's dream of economic unity. The talks, involving France, West Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, and Italy, grew out of an original French proposal to pool the coal and steel production of France and West Germany. Those two products of the two countries continue to be the foundation for west Europe's modern industry.

Within the present overall boundaries of the two countries lie nearly half of Europe's proved coal reserves and more than a third of its estimated iron reserves—Russian resources excluded in both cases.

### The Pool Would Do Away with Border Duties

Germany is richer in coal. France is heavy on the iron side. In 1936, before Germany's pre-World War II expansions, the reich produced nearly 320,000,000 tons of lignite and hard coal as against some 47,000,000 tons for France. With iron the position was reversed, France accounting for about 33,000,000 tons and Germany 6,000,000 tons.

Such resources add up to an immense steel industry (illustration, inside cover). Today's production is held back by postwar security restrictions on Germany, and by barriers between countries. A strong point of the plan would be the elimination of border duties and customs.

Areas already familiar would be among the first to contribute to the plan. Two of them—the Saar and Alsace-Lorraine—are neighbors in the heart of western Europe, where the French-German boundary forms a right-angle from the upper Rhine. For centuries both regions have proved a source of conflict between Teutonic and French peoples.

On the north, the coal-rich Saar, a highly industrialized, population-packed district of less than 800 square miles, has known invasion and occupying armies since early Germanic tribes fought Gauls and Romans.

German territory for most of the time, this district was temporarily placed under the League of Nations after World War I, when the French gained ownership of its mines as reparations. After the plebiscite of 1935 the Saar returned to Germany.

### Lorraine Iron and Saar Coal

Since World War II, the Saar's coal production once more has reverted to French control, while the territory's political status awaits German peace-treaty settlements.

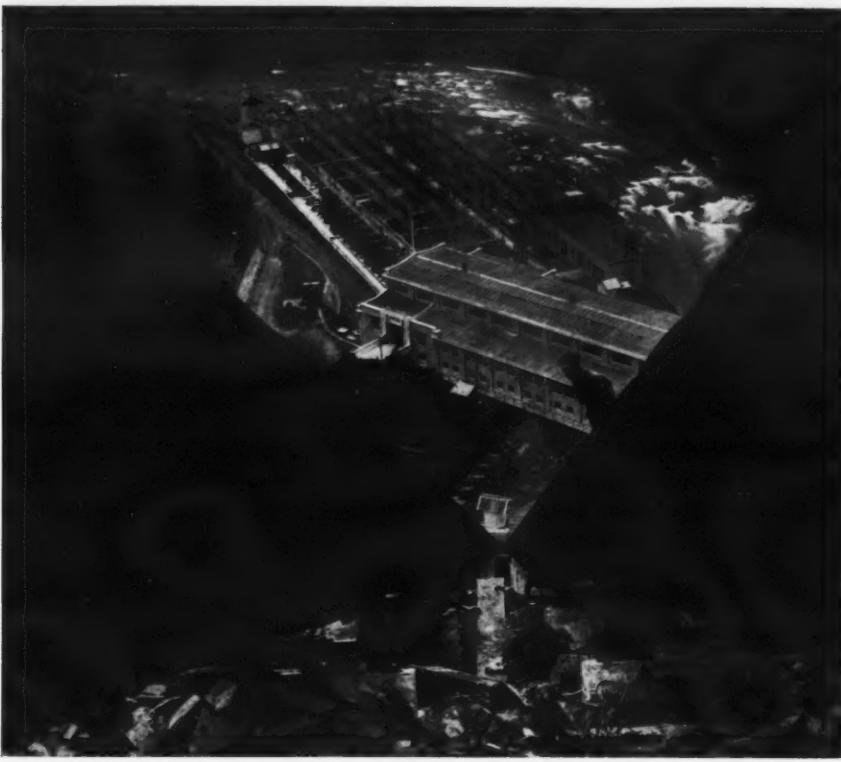
In the near-by Lorraine section of the old Alsace-Lorraine region, large deposits of iron ore, in similar fashion, have played their part in the industrial-political history of the borderland. Germany's annexation of French Alsace-Lorraine, after the Franco-German War of 1870, put Lorraine iron and Saar coal under the same flag, and laid the foundation for the Saar's industrial development.

The World War I settlement restored Alsace-Lorraine to France. It was reincorporated into Germany after the fall of France, early in World War II, and again regained by France after the German defeat.

a-million mark. It is a valuable economic possession. In addition to important production of minerals, timber, fruits, grains, and wool, it has gone in for varied industry, including mineral extraction, food processing, sawmilling operations, and the recent development of already outstanding newsprint and paper manufacture—all based on modern hydroelectric power (illustration, below).

NOTE: Tasmania appears in a large-scale inset on the National Geographic Society's map of Australia. Write the Society's headquarters, Washington 6, D. C., for a price list of maps.

For additional information, see "The Making of an Anzac" in the *National Geographic Magazine* for April, 1942 (out of print; refer to your library); and "Sailing the Seven Seas in the Interest of Science," December, 1922.



HOWELL WALKER

**TASMANIA'S TARRALEAH POWER PLANT USES PIPES INSTEAD OF A DAM**

Water from Lake St. Clair drops 820 feet through these conduits to turn the plant's generators, and then plunges into the river below. The island's geography makes for hydroelectric development. Lakes lie high in the interior mountains and swift rivers tumble down to the sea.

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## New Tacoma Bridge Spans Arm of Puget Sound

"**S**TURDY Gertie," dedicated in mid-October, opens a new avenue of vacation travel and of commerce in the Puget Sound region—the northwestern corner of the State of Washington and of the United States.

Gertie is the mile-long suspension bridge across the Tacoma Narrows. "Her" sturdy girders are estimated to be 58 times as collapse-proof as those of her predecessor, which crashed in 1940 after four months service. The 1940 bridge was called "Galloping Gertie" soon after it opened because of the way it kited and swayed in high winds.

### Farming Now Vies with Lumbering

Tacoma, "the lumber capital of America," lies on the southeastern shore of Puget Sound. Its new bridge leads west across the five-mile-long narrows to Kitsap County, lying between Puget Sound proper and the Hood Canal—fjordlike natural arm of the sound. With its fringe of outlying islands, Kitsap is shaped somewhat like an Indian arrowhead, its tip pointing north toward sprawling Whidbey Island.

During early lumbering days heavily forested Kitsap hummed with sawmills; from thriving ports sailed timber-laden ships. Lumber is still shipped from Kitsap, but so much of the forest has been cleared that not only the face of the peninsula, but its means of livelihood as well, has been transformed. Where once towered primeval forest, farmers grow fruit and vegetables, and raise thousands of chickens. An important business is exporting to inland florists ferns, holly, and various greens which grow luxuriantly in the wooded areas.

The sound region is a thriving resort and recreation area, with camps, cottages, and hotels luring vacationists for swimming, fishing, boating, and other outdoor pleasures. Many Seattle-ites make their year-round homes on the islands.

Most important "industry" is the Puget Sound Navy Yard. Located at Bremerton, about halfway down the peninsula's eastern side, the yard, in addition to its naval personnel, employs several thousand civilians.

Puget Sound is a placid inland sea reaching south between ranges of snow-capped mountains—the Coast Range and the Cascade Range. To the west, the forested heights of the Olympic Peninsula take the country's heaviest rainfall. In wet years, more than 200 inches fall at some points.

### Has 2,000-Mile Coast Line

East of the sound the Cascade Range stretches its rugged length, extending north into British Columbia and south across Oregon into California. Outstanding peaks of the Cascades, visible from Puget Sound, are 14,408-foot Mt. Rainier, Mt. Baker (10,750), and Glacier Peak (10,436).

The region's 2,000 square miles of sheltered ocean inlet includes as many linear miles of coast line. More than 200 islands help to make the tangle of bays, waterways, and natural harbors.

This entire shipping haven takes in the southern end of the Strait

Germany's steel-producing Ruhr district, underlain by Europe's most important coal deposits (illustration, below), plus a convenient iron-ore supply from Lorraine and elsewhere, normally rated as one of the world's greatest centers of heavy industry. Stretching along the Ruhr River east of the lower Rhine, it forms an almost continuous chain of mines and industrial cities.

Although long part of Germany, the Ruhr too has a history as an international trouble spot. It was occupied by French and Belgian troops in 1923, after Germany's failure to meet coal-delivery agreements, and made the 1936 headlines when Germany remilitarized the Rhineland in defiance of the Versailles treaty. It now is in the British zone.

NOTE: Coal- and iron-producing regions of France and Germany may be located on the Society's map of *Germany and Its Approaches*.

For additional information, see "Coal, Prodigious Worker for Man," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for May, 1944\*; "What Is the Saar?" February, 1935; and "Story of the Ruhr," May, 1922 (out of print; refer to your library). (Issues marked with an asterisk are included on a special list of Magazines available to teachers in packets of ten for \$1.00; issues unmarked are available at 50¢ a copy.)



U.S. AIR FORCE, OFFICIAL

RUHR COAL GOES TO BERLIN DURING THE 1949 AIRLIFT. THE TRUCK'S DECORATION SIGNIFIES  
THE 100TH LOAD THIS CREW PLACED ABOARD SKYMASTER

## Puppets, Delight of the Ages, Revived by TV

ONE of the oldest forms of drama, the puppet show, is in the smash-hit business these days.

The modern magic of television has given the clever manikins a stage and an audience such as they never before commanded. But this new wave of popularity is not entirely a matter of electronics. Puppets are also in demand in "live" performances. More than a hundred professional companies now annually tour the United States.

### So Old, Origin Is Lost

It's the same story overseas, even without benefit of Kukla, Ollie, Howdy Doody, and other television favorites. In theaters from Belgium to Brazil, the miniature actors of comic or heroic roles are reported attracting ever larger numbers of spectators to view the new and traditional themes of this special art.

The use of puppets is so old that its origin has been lost. The early Hindus, Egyptians, Greeks, and Romans all created the movable dolls capable of humanlike antics through manipulation.

Chinese legend tells of a puppet presentation for the emperor a thousand years or so before Christ. So deceptively true to life were the performers that the monarch became jealous when they appeared to flirt with his wives. He had the show's master condemned to death. Not until the puppets were dismembered to prove their inanimate nature was the execution stayed.

Some researchers say the first motion pictures were the ancient puppet shadow plays of China and Java. In the Javanese *wayang*, still often performed for the island's delighted audiences, fantastic little leather figures act out old legends and myths in shadows cast by a bright light on a cloth screen.

All over the Orient, puppet plays have continued to hold a place in the affections of the people, and some of the world's oldest stories and traditions are seen in this miniature form.

### Thousands of Companies in Europe

In the West, it was from medieval Italy, famous for its traveling puppet troupes, that the art spread over Europe. Gradually, favorite characters emerged to charm each nation's children—and grown-ups. In France it was Guignol. Germany had its Hans Wurst; the Netherlands, its Jan Pickel-Herringe; England, its Punch and Judy.

Thousands of puppet companies now are reported to be operating in Europe, from remote Sicilian villages to cosmopolitan capitals. Many are government-sponsored.

Paris, Geneva, London, Moscow, Prague, Milan, Antwerp, Brussels, and Salzburg (illustration, next page) are among Europe's cities where puppet theaters feature famous ballets, operas, comedies, and tragedies. Sometimes, plays are written especially for the small actors themselves. In Salzburg, noted for its music festivals, Hermann Aicher's marionettes include in their repertoire two plays based on Mozart's life.

of Georgia, the straits and bays of the San Juan Archipelago, and most of the waters of Juan de Fuca, a broad, deep lane to the Pacific.

Puget Sound proper and the Hood Canal form a double fish-hook southward 75 miles into the Evergreen State from the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Just over a century ago, white settlers came to Olympia, now the state capital. A city of 16,000 people, it lies at the tip of Budd Inlet, southernmost arm of Puget Sound.

Seattle, which sets the pace for this fast growing region of lumbering, fishing, mining, and manufacturing, is now in its 100th year. Midway on the sound's east coast, Seattle is hub of a metropolitan area which a preliminary 1950 census count estimates at 731,117 people. With Tacoma, the population of the two-city area reaches a million.

With the Klondike gold strike of 1897, Seattle became the "Gateway to Alaska." It surged forward with the timber trade, and its two-way annual commerce passed the \$100,000,000 mark during World War II.

A fresh-water section is a feature of Seattle's harbor. It includes a large part of the 193-mile waterfront. Ocean-going ships enter fresh-water Lake Union and pass on to Lake Washington. There barnacles, curse of shipping, die and drop from hulls reaching Seattle's saltless piers.

NOTE: Puget Sound is shown on the Society's map of the Northwestern United States and Neighboring Canadian Provinces.

For further information, see "Wartime in the Pacific Northwest," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for October, 1942; and "Washington, the Evergreen State," February, 1933.



EWING GALLOWAY

**IN THE SHELTERED WATERS OF SEATTLE'S HARBOR, FISHING FLEETS TIE UP**

Captain George Vancouver, English navigator who explored the Puget Sound region, reported in 1792 seeing the Indians "fishing for salmon with crude nets made of bark and young willows." Among devices used today are purse seines, gill nets, and trolls. Measures have been taken to conserve the fish supply and Seattle keeps its position as one of the world's leading halibut ports, with an average annual load, before the war, of 22,000,000 pounds.

## Korea Northlands Are Rugged and Remote

**N**ORTHERN Korea, creased by nature with fold upon fold of rugged mountains, is the highest and most inaccessible portion of the Korean peninsula. Heavily forested uplands, deep-clefted rivers, and ranges reaching 8,000 feet wall it off from Manchuria (map, next page).

The largest cities and towns, and the principal rail and road arteries, lie in the coastal sections. Farther inland, particularly in the north central area, the population is sparse, and living conditions in the mountain hamlets are primitive. The inland zone is, in many respects, still pioneer country.

### Pyongyang Has Double-track Railway

Before the outbreak of the present fighting, North Korea's total population was estimated at somewhat less than 10,000,000, as compared to 20,000,000 or more in South Korea. Pyongyang, fallen capital of the north, is the peninsula's number-two city in size. It is a rail and road hub of importance. Its peacetime population of about 300,000 was exceeded only by that of Seoul (illustration, cover), which counted some 1,141,000 in 1946.

Through Pyongyang runs Korea's principal railroad, a double-track line which begins far to the southeast at Pusan, the United Nations supply point, and extends to Seoul, thence north of the 38th parallel and on into Manchuria by way of Sinuiju, the North Korea border city at the mouth of the Yalu River. A major highway parallels this railroad.

Sinuiju, in the extreme northwest, is North Korea's principal doorway to the Chinese-communist stronghold of Manchuria. A 3,000-foot bridge spans the Yalu at that point, reaching Antung on the Manchuria side. The river is ice-bound in winter.

Two other major rivers drain the northwest. One is the Chongchon, which empties into Korea Bay through a large plain near Sinanju, and the other is the important 247-mile-long Taedong. The latter flows past Pyongyang and the port city of Chinnampo. Junks and light-draft vessels ply the river for considerable distances from the mouth.

### Cities Dot East Coast

In the northeast area the Taebaek range, sloping steeply toward the Sea of Japan, has limited development largely to the coastal shelf. A good automobile road and a single-track railroad hug the east coast most of the way, but turn inland short of the brief 10-mile border where Korean and Soviet Russian territory meet in the extreme northeast.

Some of the best natural harbors and largest cities of North Korea dot the east coast—Chongjin, Hungnam, Wonsan, and Hamhung.

The north central area is a wild and craggy land, punishingly cold in winter. Villages are small and semi-isolated. Its one rail line runs from Sinanju northeastward to Tsian on the Manchuria border. Roads are few and primitive; most of them were built for logging operations.

Much of North Korea's industry has been smashed by United Nations

In America, while wandering companies were recorded before the middle 1700's, puppet shows had a limited appeal at first. The art had a revival in the United States during the early 20th century, but it remained for the current boom to make puppet history. The United States now has one of the world's few exclusively puppet-making factories, turning out annually nearly 50,000 toy actors for use in educational projects, children's play, and professional drama.

The three main types of puppets are those manipulated (1) by hand, with fingers controlling the head and arms of the figure; (2) by rods, whereby one rod moves the head and others manipulate the various joints; and (3) by strings or wires. The string puppet is generally known as a marionette, and the number of strings attached to the puppet determines its versatility.



W. ROBERT MOORE

**SEATED AT THE PIANO, THE BOY MOZART PLAYS FOR THE EMPRESS**

Marionettes, controlled by wires from nimble fingers above, re-enact the 18th century scene. Wolfgang Mozart was born in Salzburg, Austria, where this theater still produces plays based on his life. During actual performances the operators are hidden, live actors who speak lines stand in a pit, and records provide musical background.

bombing and naval bombardment. But before the war the communist-dominated section of the peninsula had considerable heavy industry. Iron, steel, chemicals, and ore smelting were important. Many plants were large and well equipped, emphasizing the contrast between the modern and the primitive which is everywhere evident.

Most North Koreans still eke out a living from the soil, farming the narrow valleys and low hill slopes. However, much of the land is poor; the principal growing areas for the staple rice crops are in the south.

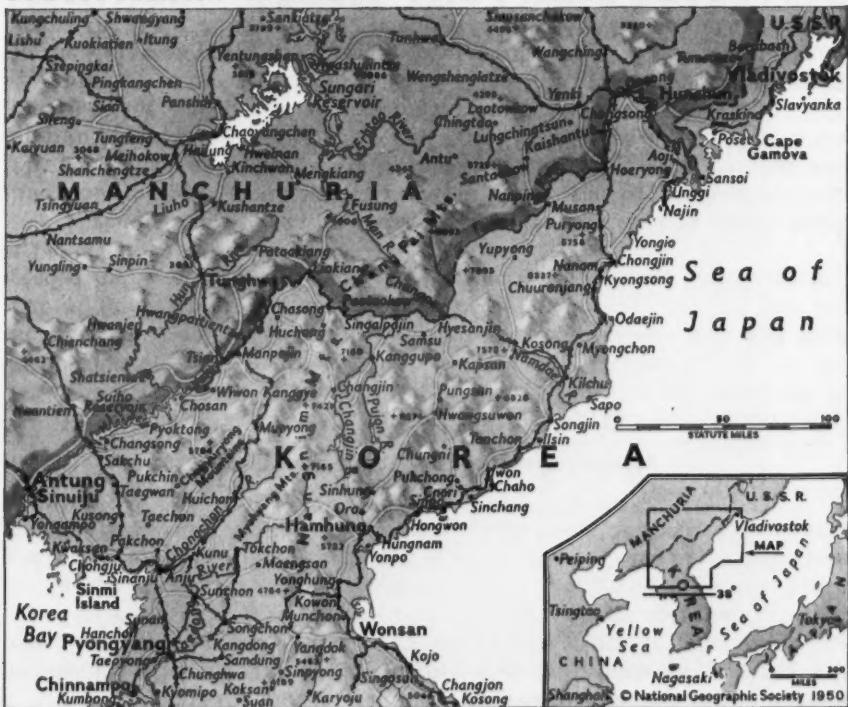
North Korea has more than two-thirds of the peninsula's electric power capacity. During Japanese occupation several large generating stations were erected on the Yalu, Changjin, and Pujon rivers.

NOTE: Korea may be located on the Society's map of Japan and Korea.

For additional information, see "Roaming Korea South of the Iron Curtain," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for June, 1950; "Operation Eclipse: 1948," March, 1949; "With the U.S. Army in Korea," June, 1947; "Jap Rule in the Hermit Kingdom," October, 1945"; and "Chosen—Land of Morning Calm," October, 1933.

See also, in the **GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS**, October 16, 1950, "Korea Action Geared to Summer Monsoon's End"; "War Engulfs Korea's 'Land of Morning Calm,'" October 2, 1950; and "Korea's Wait for Freedom a Restless Period," February 9, 1948.

## **NORTHERN KOREA: THE FINAL OBJECTIVE**



## **MANCHURIA AND A SLIVER OF THE U.S.S.R. SEPARATE KOREA FROM THE REST OF ASIA**

This is the third map in the Korea series. (See *Geographic School Bulletins* dated October 2 and October 16, 1950, for previous maps.) Using the latest information, the Society's cartographers became the first mappers of Korea to show the correct extent of its railroad mileage. Previously, maps had shown many rail lines that had merely been planned.

